

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

62.09

The Lena Lothrop Garden

211 East 18th Street

San Bernardino, California

JUN 1946

U. S. Department of Agriculture

Irises and Daffodils

1946 Irises

Please note my new address. Because my irises were planted late in this location they have not bloomed normally but they are growing well and next year should be better than ever before. This soil is the best I have worked, in more than twenty years of gardening.

I have stock, with which to fill orders, growing in Oregon and only good rhizomes will be sold.

Last year in my foreword I stressed reliability in irises; this year let us add quality in irises.

It requires no more work, water or fertilizer to grow a good iris and it is cheaper in the long run for a good iris will give lasting satisfaction while a poor one will be thrown over the fence.

Often I am asked to define a good iris. Not long ago I heard a lecture on flower arrangement. The speaker wrote on a blackboard "Elements of Art," and under this the words "Line," "Form," "Color," "Texture." She then wrote "Principals of Art," followed by "Proportion," "Balance," "Symmetry," etc. Immediately I thought "She is naming the good points of an iris." We who love irises will notice the line, form, color and texture of an iris flower and whether it has proportion. We will see if the stalk is in proportion to the flower, if it has balance in its branches, and if the whole flower is symmetrical. On my own I would add the word, substance. The lecturer thought texture embraced substance, but my understanding is that the grain of the flower indicates texture whether it be coarse or fine. Substance, to me, means thickness, or firmness of the petals. Substance keeps the flowers from collapsing—helps to protect them from the deprivations of wind, sun and rain. Thickness of petals (substance) improves the color because layer upon layer of color particles could not help but deepen and intensify color. Fine texture produces a sheen like satin or the appearance of velvet. One of the most important things to remember is that color is not everything.

Most irises have faults; the one that has few is a joy forever.

Daffodils

I have discontinued selling daffodils except those which originated in the Reynolds garden. These are tops in quality. There is no need for importing daffodils when such superior varieties are produced here at home—varieties that are tested and suitable for our climate and conditions. The time was when our finest irises came from England and France, but not now, and the tide has turned for daffodils.

"If thou of fortune be bereft
And in thy store there be but left
Two loaves, sell one and with the dole
Buy daffodils to feed thy soul."

Before introducing any irises I want to test them carefully. Several were being grown with the expectation of passing them on to you this spring but the change in their living quarters was so upsetting to most of them that I am holding them for another year. Butterfly Wings bloomed nicely for me here and I have been admiring it all season in Mr. White's garden so I have no hesitation in offering it to you.

BUTTERFLY WINGS (White). The color in this iris is a definite departure from the usual. The standards are translucent, reminding one of old, translucent glass. The color is pale lilac, blending to deeper at the tops of the petals. The falls are yellow on the under side with green ribs but on the upper side the ground is white heavily straited all the way from the beard to the edge of the petals, hence its name. This striation is golden brown except for the veins which start near the point of the beard. These are red-lilac, carrying the color harmony from the lower part of the falls to the top of the standards. The standards are charmingly ruffled and the whole flower is extremely graceful on slender, but rigid, well-branched stalks 36 inches tall. It is a very attractive and appealing iris. Each \$15.00.

GENERAL LIST OF

Iris

Acropolis—A good, tall, purple bicolor. Reliable in warm climates. \$.50

Aida—Tall, with large bronze-yellow flowers. \$.50

Arctic—A fine white with gold in the throat. \$2.00

Balmung—Yellow ground plicata. \$2.00

Berkeley Gold—Short stalks with me but it is a good bright yellow. Considered one of the brightest at the moment \$5.00

Babs—Remarkably large and remarkably clear red-purple of finest texture. Too large for the height of the stalk. Each \$1.50

Betsy Ross—A good very large lilac-blue blend. \$2.00

Blue Clay—Sometimes has six flowers on a stalk at one time. A lovely pale blue. Probably tender. \$1.00

Brown Betty—This will always have appeal for it is so graceful. Blended browns. \$.50

California Peach—When it opens it is a lovely peach blend but it fades badly. The older flowers can be kept picked off. \$5.00

California Trek—An aristocrat always. A super-duper lemon yellow. \$5.00

Cheorio—A standard velvety red. A parent of many good irises. \$.35

China Lady—Good and reliable. Blooms and increases like mad. White with yellow in the haft. \$2.50

China Maid—We all know and love this pink even when her standards droop. Tall and lovely, she is a yard-stick by which other pinks are measured. . \$1.00

Christable—A good red iris. Each \$.75

Chrysolite—Wonderful substance, broad petals. The falls are accented by a rich orange beard. The best cream iris I have seen. \$1.50

City of Lincoln—Until we get the new variegata from England, High Command (or make one ourselves) this will have to do. \$1.50

Copper Cascade—Not so reliable as I wish but rich and lovely and distinct in color. Coppery. \$1.50

Daybreak is hesitant, so far, about yielding to the charms of Southern California but it has a good reputation as a pink blend. I am hoping some day to see what it really is like. \$6.00

Del Rosa—This has been good enough to catch the eye of supposedly critical irisians such as Carl Milliken and Carl Taylor. They thought it was good and so do I. Standards are blended rose and gold and falls are red velvet from the throat to the extreme edge. Well branched, good size, good height, good substance. \$5.00

Deep Velvet—It is a good rich velvety iris but it sometimes forgets to bring its branches with it. \$2.00

Dogrose—Pink. Each. \$.40

Dorothy Dietz—Not new, but where can you find one in this color more dependable? Light standards and dark velvety falls. \$.50

Dubrovnik—A bold flower in gold and plum color. \$1.00

Due West—I can still praise this as being one of the best and most dependable white irises. Heavy substance with shining surface. \$.50

Easter Morn—This large white has been particularly lovely this year — an iris hard to beat. \$.40

E. B. Williamson—This is the famous terra cotta red. \$.75

Elan—A crisp, ruffled white. Tall and reliable. \$.50

Elena Choosing—This metallic, bronze-gold iris with lilac in the shadows is a favorite of mine. Tall, large and distinct in color. It is a reliable performer. \$6.00

Elmohr—Everyone wants this stunning iris and as I have a good stock I am making a special price. When ordered with other irises the price will be \$3.50 — alone it will be \$4.00

Esdraelon—A very dark iris which is rich and velvety. There is a black sheen on the falls. It grows 30 inches tall with close branching on a heavy stalk. . \$2.00

Esquire—This is my own dark iris of which I am not in the least ashamed. It is, as I have said, the tallest, best branched, dark iris I have seen. Without stretching it grows 45 inches tall with three or four branches. The dark flowers are crisp and firm, but not velvety, which gives it great distinction. . . \$20.00

Fair Elaine—A classic by now—a good one, with pale cream standards and light yellow falls. Perfect form. \$1.50

Fair Enough — Lovely blue iris that seems to have been made especially for us for it is tender. \$.50

Farcross—A very dark oncobred with black sheen. Attractive and a good bloomer. \$1.00

Florentine—There is no lovelier blue and white plicata than this and it was one of the very few irises that remained unharmed and beautiful after a full day of scalding wind. \$2.00

Fort Knox—Just about perfect. A lovely medium-toned yellow. \$3.50

Fortune—Well formed, well branched but short. Uniform old-gold color. \$3.00

Frank Adams—Surprisingly good for an iris of this type. Yellow standards, crimson falls. \$.75

Full Measure—Precise in form on slender, branched stalks. Not large but attractive. Dark yellow. \$4.00

Gypsy King—A large and tall red oncobred. Broad petals, blocky form, reliable bloomer. Outstanding. \$4.00

Glowport — Small, compact, dark red. Very nice. \$.50

Golden Cataract—A good sized bright yellow on a short stalk. One of the most truly every-bloomers in the garden. \$.40

Golden Majesty—Will be among the best yellows for a long time to come because it is tall with broad petaled flowers and is reliable. \$1.00

Grand Canyon—Plum, copper and gold blend. Not happy in my garden. Possibly requires cold winters. \$2.00

Great Lakes—This, too, is better in Oregon than I have seen it in California. It is a fine, majestic blue from Canada. \$1.75

Goldbeater—A lovely yellow from Oregon that is a good performer here. Very smooth finish; prolific of bloom and increase. \$10.00

Harmonetta—Has less purple in its blue color than any iris I have seen and I doubt if there is an iris with thicker petals. There is a manner of blending of the blue with paler blue on the falls that is very charming. The flowers are large, the falls flaring. The stalks are well branched and sturdy — they will never blow over. It is about the same height as well-grown Lake George and I think the two would be impressive planted together for Harmonetta is many shades lighter and has the class necessary to stand up to Lake George. \$20.00.

Her Grace—I do not care much for blends (there are too many of them) but this iris I love. It is a blending of gray-blues with pinkish lights. . . \$1.00

Hills of Gold—A medium toned yellow with gracefully flaring, flat falls that are slightly ruffled at their extreme edge. The large flowers are on 40-inch well branched stalks. Flat falls on a yellow iris are rare. Everyone likes it. \$3.00.

Jineen—Medium toned blue. Very large and tall. \$.75

Jack of Diamonds—Faulty form but surprisingly red. Cannot keep any stock when the blooms are left on the plants. It was created by the late Commander Monroe. \$1.00

Janice Irene—The standards are light lavender-blue above falls of a medium shade of lilac. There is no blending of the two colors—each is a cut out of its own piece of cloth. The combination of blue and lilac is lovely. A clump of the tall stalks is something to dream about. \$8.00.

Jean Cayeux — That smallish brown blend that has been the papa of so many (too many) blends since it came to America. Still attractive. \$.35

Lady Grace—Tall graceful white with flat, flaring falls. Suede-like texture. \$1.00.

Lady Mohr—Probably the tallest of the Wm. Mohr hybrids. The "Lady" has two or three rather high branches. The standards are a clear pale, bluish tint and the falls are a dull greenish yellow covered with fine, dark veins. The broad beard is sparse. It is an iris that grows on one—is quite appealing. \$25.00

Lori May—A pinkish blend. \$6.00

Los Angeles—This is that hoary iris that was belatedly given an H. M. not long ago. Are there better plicates now? \$.40

Louvois — A rich, very late, velvety brown-purple with lighter margin. \$1.00

Lucerne —A popular blue that fails to increase as fast as it sells. None for sale.		Narain —A lush grower giving many stalks of nice blue flowers. \$.35
Marquita — A short but large cream flower. The falls are marked with bold rose veins. Late. \$.50		Old Parchment —A tall creamy tan. \$2.00
Mauna Loa — For Southern California this is a must. It is very early, blooming with San Gabriel and Purissima and the rest of those lovely early-blooming irises. This is a red-purple and it has a long blooming season. \$.50		Painted Desert —A beautifully formed blend on a tall well branched stalk. \$15.00.
Melitza —Not much for color but it certainly does give plenty of what it has—blooms and increase. Mr. Gersdorff says he selected it from the seedling garden for its tangerine beard. \$2.00		Persia —Silvery lavender standards and blue purple falls. \$.35
Melanie —A tall orchid pink. \$3.00		Polly —An exceptionally pure blue with exceptionally wide branching. Tall and lovely. \$1.00
Mexico —Bright light red with velvety falls that are very flat and slightly crimped at the edges. Unusual color and would be strictly stunning if it should decide to grow up. (It is short.) .. \$7.50		Purissima —An old, early white that still has not been excelled for warm climates. Tall. \$.35
Miss California —Tall, light purple — a rosy purple tint. A color that has value in the garden. \$.60		Purple Prince — Neat compact flowers borne on slender, wiry stalks with several branches. It is a rich purple color, with dark beard. It should be valuable for flower arrangements on account of the type of stalk. Supposed to be an "ever-bloomer" but is only a "twice-bloomer" for me. \$2.00
Miss Sally —Large rose flowers on 36-inch well branched stalks. A good performer. \$2.00		Quinque — Tall, large, soft rose red. Early. \$2.00
Monodnock —Tall rose-red. Late... \$2.00		Regal Beauty —Light violet standards and dark purple falls. \$1.00
Molasses —The standards are about the color of dark molasses. The falls are red-brown velvet of super quality. Form could be better but it is an iris that catches the eye. \$3.00		Ric —Very late, rich, dark blend out of Brown Betty. Reliable. \$1.00
Morocco Rose —A large flower — too large for its height—but a very smooth textured flower and a very lovely shade of pink. \$1.50		Ruth Pollock —Yellow ground plicata. Not so tall as Balmung but brighter in color. \$2.50
Mount Cloud —This is another super iris. One of the most satisfactory of all white irises. It increases fast so the price is low. \$.35		Salar —Peachy-cream blend. Tall. \$1.00
Mountain Sky —Another good increaser and a lovely and distinct blue with good substance. \$1.00		San Gabriel —Our lovely, tall, and very early, orchid-pink iris. \$.35
Mount Washington —A very white, white on a tall stalk. Good. \$1.50		San Francisco —One of the best of the plicatas. Tall and well branched. Lavender stitching. \$.35
Mrs. Brown —Yellow standards and truly brown falls. It sells well. \$1.00		Seduction —Pinkish stitching on this exquisite plicata. Lots of value for your money in this iris. Late. \$.50
Narada —A large medium blue. A well-grown clump is an impressive sight. \$1.00		Sheriffa — A striking flower in mulberry-red with blue below the beard. An oncobred. \$2.00
		Shining Waters —A blue that is beautiful in every way. Still at the head of its class. \$.35
		Sierra Blue —Darker than the above. A well-formed flower on a fine stalk. \$.35

Sky Maid—Clear, medium blue on tall stalks. Lovely flaring falls and firm standards. Beautiful singly or in clumps. \$2.00.

Snow Flurry—Crisp, ruffled petals that make a beautiful flower but the stalks are often ugly. \$3.00

Snowqualmie—Smooth cream color. \$1

Spring Secretary—A warm bright blend of gold and lilac. \$1.00

Sungold—Large, tall, light yellow. May bloom almost any time. \$.75

Summer Tan—An early blend of tan, brown and orange. Small. \$.35

Sundart—Tall and large. An early blend of white and lemon yellow. Vigorous growth. \$1.00

Sunbonnet Girl—Not large but a delightful iris with globular white standards and yellow falls. \$1.00

Sunset Haze—Smooth, grayed, rose self, with fine finish on a well branched stalk. Nothing wrong with this. \$2.50

Spindrift—Something different in pinks. \$15.00.

Tawny Pearl—The standards are creamy tan and the falls have an overlay of cocoa brown. Nice form, good substance and unusual color. \$1.50

Tenaya—An old, but still good red-purple with velvet falls. \$.35

Three Sisters—Creamy white standards and red brown falls. \$3.00

Teal—Tall and large. Lilac tinted, chamois colored standards with purple falls. Free blooming and good increaser. \$.50

Val—This is one of the loveliest irises in the entire list. In form, in stalk and in poise, it is perfect and the color is exquisite. Standards are smooth, clear, pale lavender—almost white—and the falls are a deeper tint. A near amoena. \$3.00.

Wabash—Pure white standards and rich purple falls. Blooms well and increases well here in California. \$1.00

White Spire—The tallest and largest white in this list. A good performer and a striking iris. \$1.50

Of spuria irises I am unable this year to offer either Bronzspur or Saugatuck. GOLDEN NUGGET is a most satisfactory bright yellow self. This I can provide at \$1.00 each. OCHRAUREA, a lovely broad petaled yellow with cream margins can be had at 50 cents each.

Of Siberian irises I can still offer Heavenly Blue, Llewellyn and White Dove. The first two are in blue shades. Each 75 cents.

With the exception of the two new dwarfs, Lagunita and Zia, I am unable to offer any of that class. The late moving seemed to be very distasteful to the dwarfs but I will have them again next year.

Lagunita—This is a choice little item growing 8 to 12 inches tall with one or two branches. The stalk and branches are very slender making it ideal for flower arrangements. The firm, flat little petals stay firm and flat with no tucking under or pinching. The color is a warm, rosy purple with tints of fuchsia. \$2.00

Zia — This grows 18 inches with no branches but with two flowers at the top of the stalk. It is an oncobred. The color is grayed reddish lilac. Both of these dwarfs are very choice....\$2.00

The oncocyclus irises in Mr. White's garden were never so healthy and were never so beautiful as this year. There will be a surplus of stock which I can offer at \$8.00 per dozen. They will not be ready to ship until fall but I suggest that you order early. Last year I did not have enough stock to fill all orders.

Perhaps you do not know what iris laevigata albopurpurea is. It is an iris that originally came from Japan and now that we are bossing Japan we will not mind having one of their irises that really is a gasper and can be grown with the utmost ease. To be perfectly happy it should and can be grown in muck and when it is happy it will make the grower happy. There are different ways by which muck conditions can be obtained. The drip from an ice refrigerator; the overflow from a pool (this is ideal); grown in a pot which is set in a pool but not so deep that the water overflows the top of the pot. The pot can be set on another pot in the water to lift it to the proper height. The color of this flower is purple with striking spots of white. It really will create more gasps of admiration than almost any iris for it does bloom bountifully. Each.....\$1.50

Daffodils

Comanche—A yellow trumpet of size that is deeper in color than either Principal or Royalist and the perianth is much flatter than in those varieties. The wide overlapping petals cling to one another and the perianth, which shows a tendency to reflex, exposes the base of the trumpet. The trumpet is quite narrow at the base and expands gracefully to the crimped edge of the mouth. There is no rolling of the edge of the trumpet, neither is there a flange. The formation of the whole flower is in delightful harmony. The large flower lifts so that one looks into the trumpet. Substance and finish are fine....\$15.00

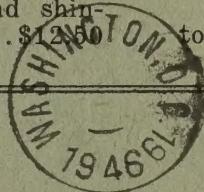
Temecula—This is one of the finest yellow incomparabilis seen. Tall, up-standing flower with the broad, imbricated petals as flat as if glued together. The distinct crown is broad and widely flanged. Texture is smooth and shining.

Mariposa—A large crowned Leedsii with almost the proportions of a trumpet. The broad overlapping petals taper to a fine point and the flower lifts so the center of the flower can be seen. Its substance and texture will satisfy the most exacting and it has the ability above any daffodil in my garden to withstand severe weather conditions.....\$12.50

Tehachapi — Large crowned Leedsii. Large flowers with broad overlapping petals which are stained yellow near the crown. The crown is long and narrow. A beautifully finished flower. \$3.00

Gay Dancer—A superlative daffodil. The large round overlapping petals of lustrous white make a very large flower that is decorated in the center with a flat yellow cup, or eye, edged red. Each shining petal is slightly waved at the edge. Has marvelous substance and the stalks are tall. A Barrii.....\$5.00

Orders over \$2.50 prepaid. Sales tax to California customers 2 1/2%.



The Lena Lothrop Gardens
211 East 18th Street
San Bernardino, California

Sec. 562 P. L. & R.

LIBRARY of the United States
Department of Agriculture

Washington 25, D.C.

Mrs. Smallwood

